H.C. Burleigh Papers

Deseronto

Captain John Deseronto

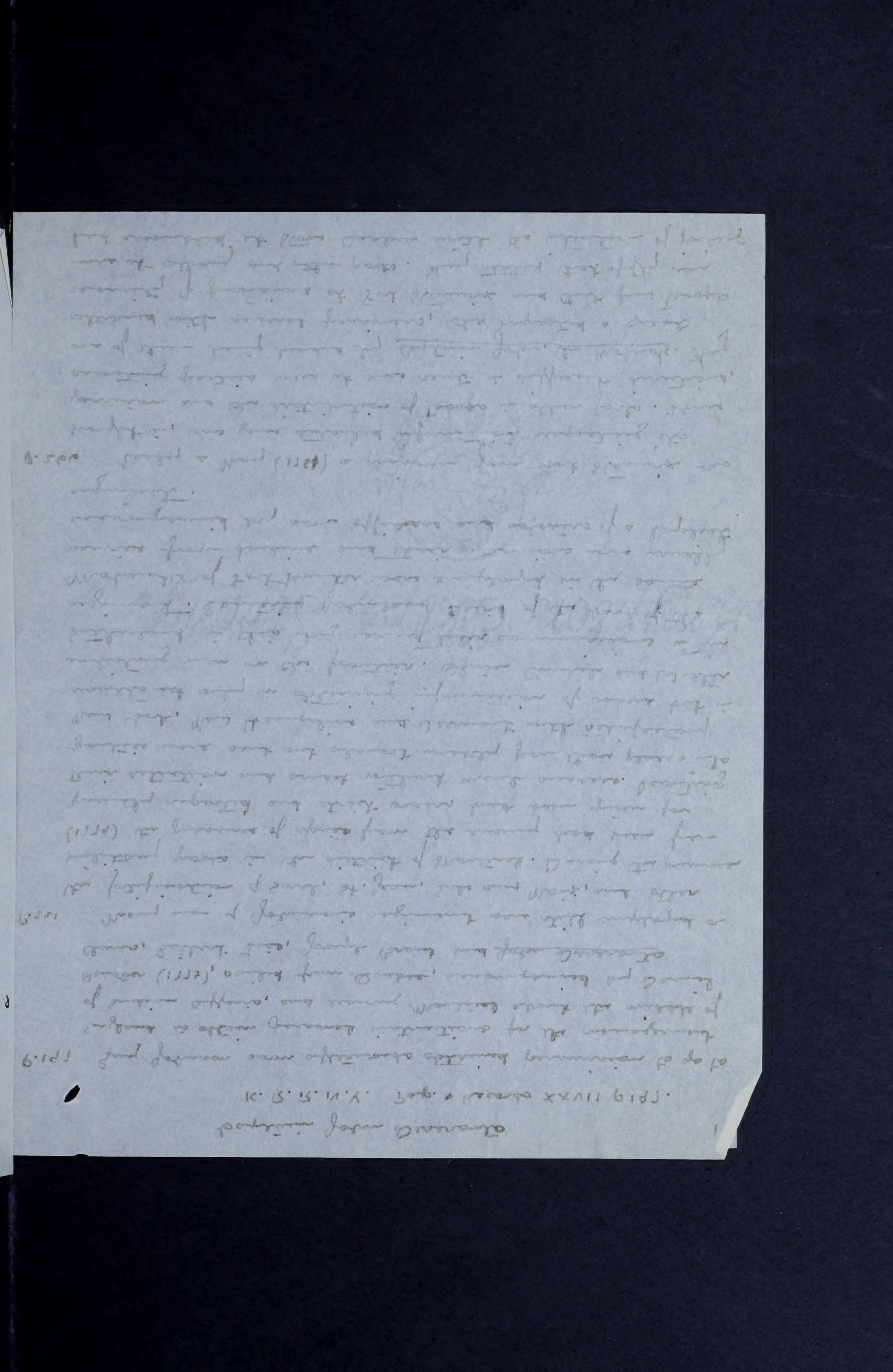


K. R. R. N.Y. Pap. & Records XXVII p197.

P.197 Guy Johnson soon afterwards obtained permission to go to England to obtain personal instructions for the management of Indian Affairs, and leaving Montreal about the middle of October (1775), sailed from Quebec, accompanied by Daniel Claus, Gilbert Tice, Joseph Brant and John Deseronto

P.221 Many men of Johnson's regiment were still employed on the fortification of Sorel, St. Jean, Isle aux Noix, and other military posts in the district of Montreal. During the summer (1779) the presence of spies from the enemy had been frequently reported and strict orders had been given for their detection and arrest without much success. Scouting parties were sent out almost weekly from those places into New York, New Hampshire and Vermont with satisfactory results not only in obtaining information of value but in enlisting men on the frontier. Oliver Church and Walter Sutherland in this way earned their commissions in the regiment. Captains John and David of the band of the Mohawks of Fort Hunter were employed in the same service from Lachine and their warriors were usually accompanied by some officers and soldiers of a loyalist regiment.

P.266 Early in May (1780) a prisoner from Fort Stanwix was brought in, who gave detailed information respecting its garrison and the distribution of troops in other forts. Three scouting parties were at once sent in different directions, one of them being headed by Captain John, the Mohawk. They returned with several prisoners, who reported a great scarcity of provisions at Fort Stanwix and that few troops were at Albany and other posts. They stated that fifty men had assembled at Stone Arabia with the intention of joining



Sir John Johnson in Canada but had been intercepted on the way. The remaining inhabitants of the valley were undoubtedly in a state of extreme misery.

P. 278 On learning (1782) that a prisoner had been brought into Oswegatchie from Ellice's mill at the little falls of the Mohawk from whom information had been obtained of its unprotected state, Haldimand advised Ross to attempt its destruction.

"This is now the only remaining Mill upon that River and its supplies the Rebel Troops in the Adjacent Parts, the destruction of it is consequently an Object Worthy of Attention not only inasmuch as it will distress them but by increasing their difficulties in the Movement of any Considerable Body of Troops up that River. It is a Stone House, two Stories high and in some degree prepared for defence. When the Prisoner was taken there was only a Guard of Six men. it is said now to be increased to an Officer and twenty, with one piece of Ordnance — Capn. John with about eighteen (men) is to attempt a surprise, but his Success is too precarious to be depended upon — if you could spare about 20 or 30 active men joined to a strong Party of chosen Indians, I think it might be destroyed either by Surprise or by lodging some Kegs of Powder under the Wall in the Night to form a Breach. Whatever is done should be rapid as the Mill is within Six Miles of the Fort from whence of Course it will be Succoured, it must be judiciously inverted to prevent this, and good Management will be necessary in the retreat of the Party,

Captain John Dominick
(Seat B) R.N.R.N.P.

[illegible]

[illegible] Ms. [illegible] Ms. [illegible] Ms. [

attending at the same time effectually to destroy the Mill." - - - - - - .

P. 279 In a second letter on the same day, May 7, Haldimand, writing from Montreal, where he had established his temporary headquarters to be nearer the prospective scene of operations, stated he was greatly pleased at the rapid progress Ross had made in fortifying Oswego and informed him that John the Mohawk would soon start off on a scouting expedition to the Mohawk valley and pay him a visit on his return journey.

P. 283 (On a foray July, 1782, by Ross, Fort Hartleman & Fort Deaton were attacked and cattle driven off. These last were driven to German Town). "Some of the Indians there form'd themselves into small partys finding they were deficient in Prisoners excited by belts from their different Tribes and returned with Capt. Brant and Capt. John to the Country. I did not think it my duty to interfere with them nor consistent with my orders to make myself a party to such enterprises. When I arrived at German Town found the Indians were bent upon making a property of the whole of the Cattle without paying any attention to my men and it was with great difficulty with the assistance of Capt. Brant that I got twenty five head (out of two hundred and twenty four) which I brought to this place (Oswego). - - - - - - .

P. 311. Cataraqui, 14th June 1784 Major Ross wrote ....., Captain John, with his Mohawk Company, has been attempting to destroy all my Indian Oeconomy he is not only aroving on his own account but Strenuous

in behalf of the Mississagoes for provisions I have as yet yielded very little to his entreaties but had some trouble on the occasion.

Cordaire Jean Dominique
(1802) O.P.

in Report of the Minister for Finance, from 1st
Oct. 1898 to 30th June 1899 to the Multcatin Sub-Prefect
Remarks on the accounts.

Desaronthan

Desaronthan, William + Katreen, Mohawk Village

→ Johnny bp 12.25.1809

U.E. List Supp.

John (Deserontyo) Capt. Mohawk Chief.

Loy. claim + ~~witness~~ — nil

L.B.O.

nil